Amphibs & MPF(F)

Different but complementary capabilities

Amphibious Ships

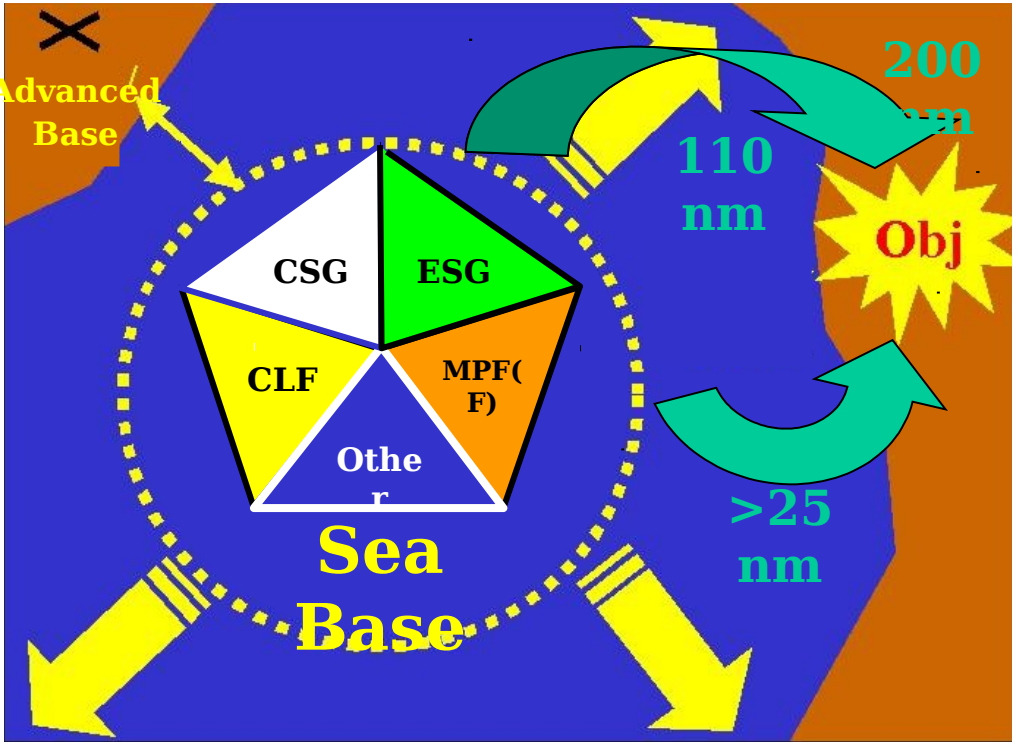
Forward Presence (Apples)

MPF(F)

Operational Support

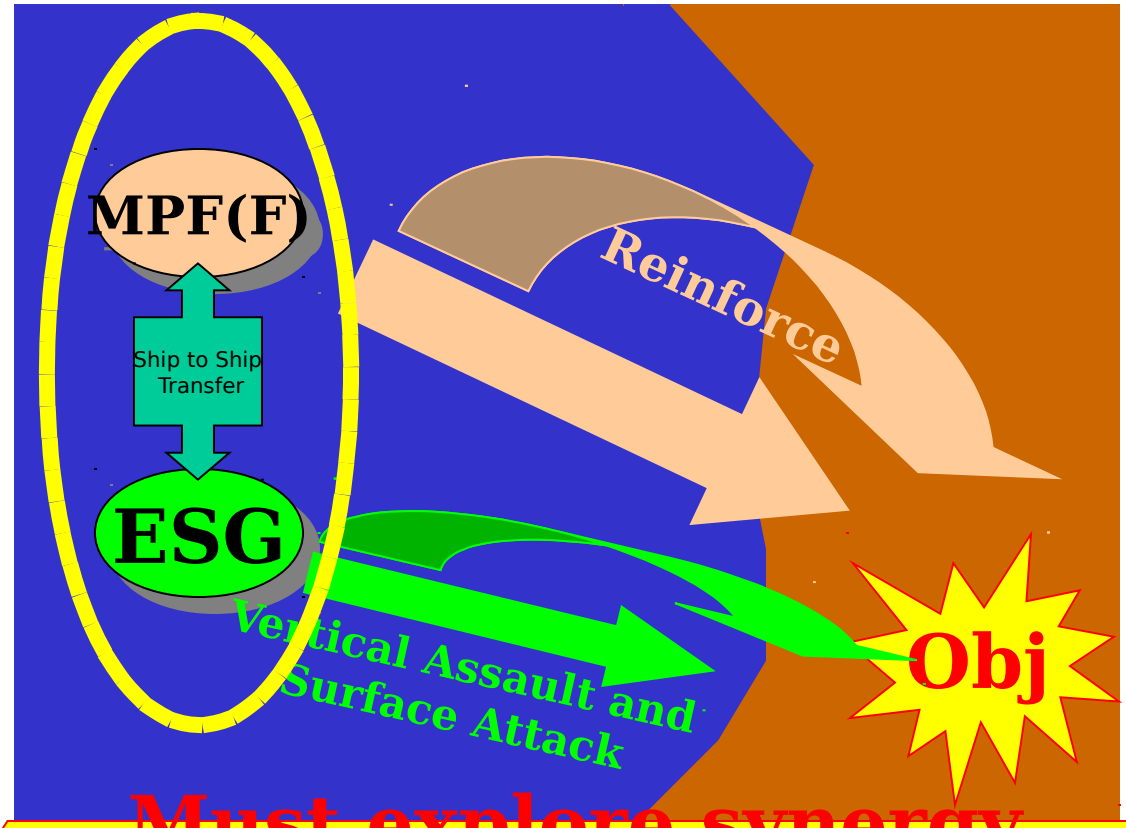
Platforms Integral to Sea Basing

- **MPF(F) and Amphibs are part of Naval Sea Base**
  - **Exact composition and purpose of Sea Base depends on METT-T**
  - **Combination of a range of naval assets operating offshore**
  - **Sea Base is located where tactically and operationally appropriate**
  - **Proximate to theater Advanced Base**
  - **“Other” includes coalition platforms**



Concept for Employing Maneuver Elements

- **MPF(F) can operate independently or in conjunction with ESG or ESF (IAW threat)**
- **MPF(F) can reinforce ESG/ESF operation**
  - **1 Reinforced Bn by air (Organic MEB ACE aircraft)**
  - **1 Reinforced Bn by surface (AAAV, surface craft)**
  - **1 Reinforced Bn in trace by combination of modes**
  - **Direct from MPSRON to Objective**



Must explore synergy of ESG and MPF(F) working together

Amphibs Distinctions

- **Amphibious ships use the sea as maneuver space in support of forcible entry operations and enable embarked forces to remain at sea for extended periods to conduct forward presence missions (12 ARG fiscally constrained lift objective)**

- **Amphibious assault ships embark, deploy and employ maneuver forces for conducting forcible entry**

MPF(F) Distinctions

- **MPF provides prepositioned equipment and supplies to support the integration of a Marine Expeditionary Brigade (MEB) at a secure SPOD and APOD**

- **MPF(F) concept combines the endurance of sea lift and the speed of airlift to rapidly integrate from a seabase follow-on forces and sustainment in support of forces ashore**

- **MPF(F) systems integrate reinforcing personnel, equipment and sustainment at or near the intended area of operations**

MPF(F) Distinctions Continued

- **MPF(F) will provide at-sea arrival and assembly, and selective offload with minimal footprint ashore**

- **Integration of high-speed sealift and lighterage with MPF(F) will provide the Naval forces with a high- speed conduit for maintaining and sustaining the Enhanced Networked Seabase**

Contrast

Amphibs

- Optimized for forcible entry
- Combat loaded
- Combat systems
- Aviation configured (Big Decks)
- Forces embarked for long duration
- Navy crewed
- Military construction standards
- Navy managed
- Initial construction and O&M cost more
- Transformational capabilities will require non-traditional design considerations

MPF(F)

- Optimized for rapid reinforcement
- Selective offload
- No combat systems
- Aviation capable
- Forces embarked for short duration
- Civilian crewed
- Commercial construction standards
- MSC resourced and managed
- Initial construction and O&M cost less
- Modular design w/transformational capabilities supporting operational concepts

Different Mission Sets

- **Different Mission Sets… for example**
  - **LHA(R) MNS**
    - **"…forward presence and power projection as integral part of Joint, interagency, and multinational maritime expeditionary forces."**
      - **"It must embark, support, and operate for sustained periods…"**
    - **Amphibious C2, Forcible Entry and Engagement**
  - **MPF(F) MNS**
    - **"Provide…highly flexible operational and logistics support capability to meet widely varied expeditionary missions…"**
      - **"Force Closure, ATF Interoperability, sustainment, reconstitution and redeployment"**
    - **Reinforce, exploit, and sustain initial entry successes**

Different Platform Requirements

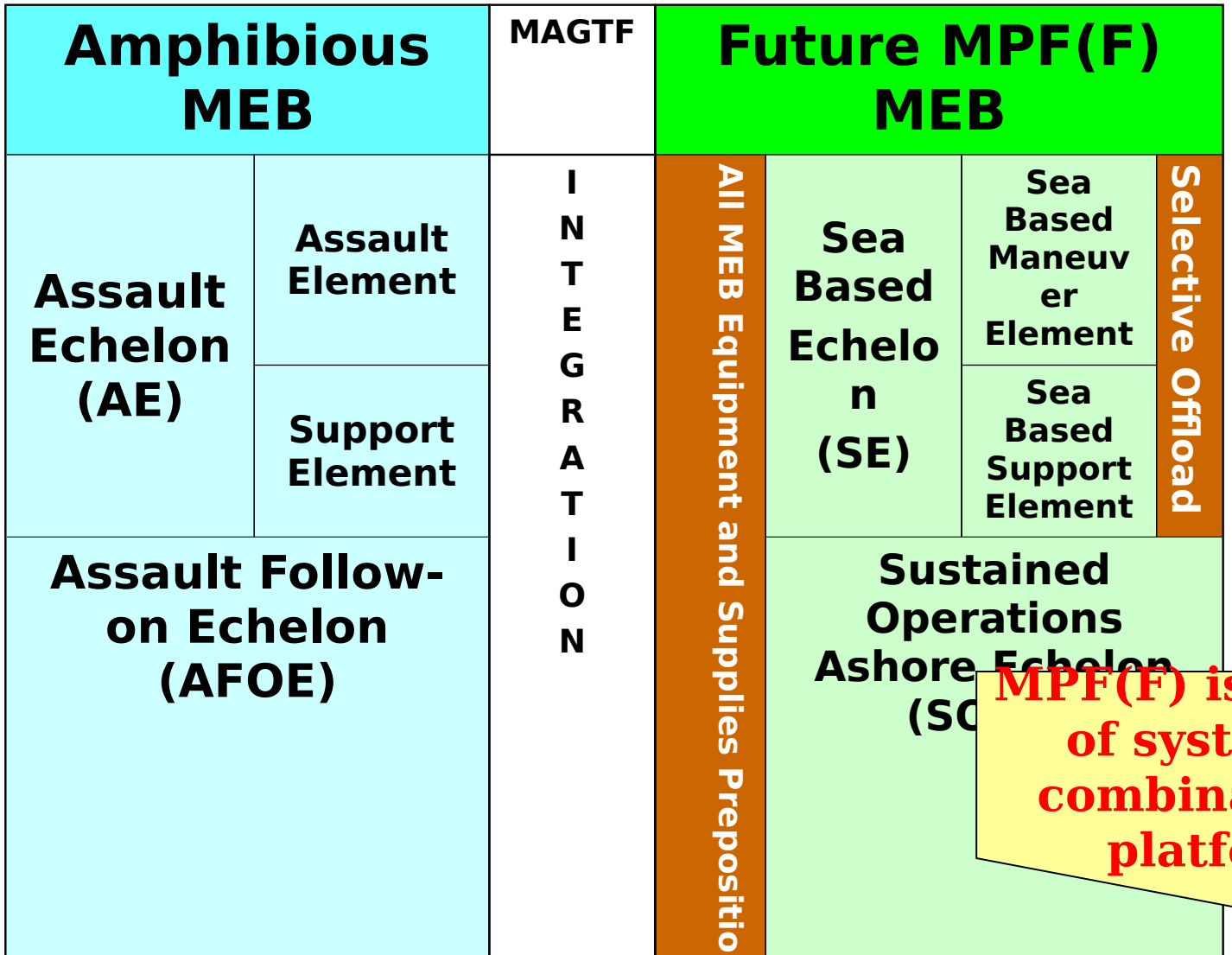
- **LHA(R):**
  - **The centerpiece and principle MAGTF Aviation support platform**
  - **Primary C2 platform**
  - **Simultaneous launch and recovery of amphibian vehicles, landing craft and fixed and rotary wing aircraft ISO amphibious operations**
  - **Embark and operate with Joint, interagency, and Combined C2 staff functions**
  - **Support all aspects of amphibious campaign**
  - **Credible, sustainable combat forces able to deter and immediately respond – 24/7**
- **MPF(F):**
  - **Prepositioning of equipment and materiel**
  - **Phased at-sea arrival and assembly of CONUS forces**
  - **Selective offload**
  - **Interface with and potential maintenance support for ATF surface assault craft and amphibious assault vehicles; limited aviation support available**
  - **Part of follow-on echelon to capitalize on forward deployed successes**
  - **Follow-on replenishment and sustainment supporting Naval forces ashore and afloat**

Different Crisis Response Options

- **Amphibs: Forward presence and immediate power projection**
  - **24/7 Forward Presence**
  - **Immediate redeployment**

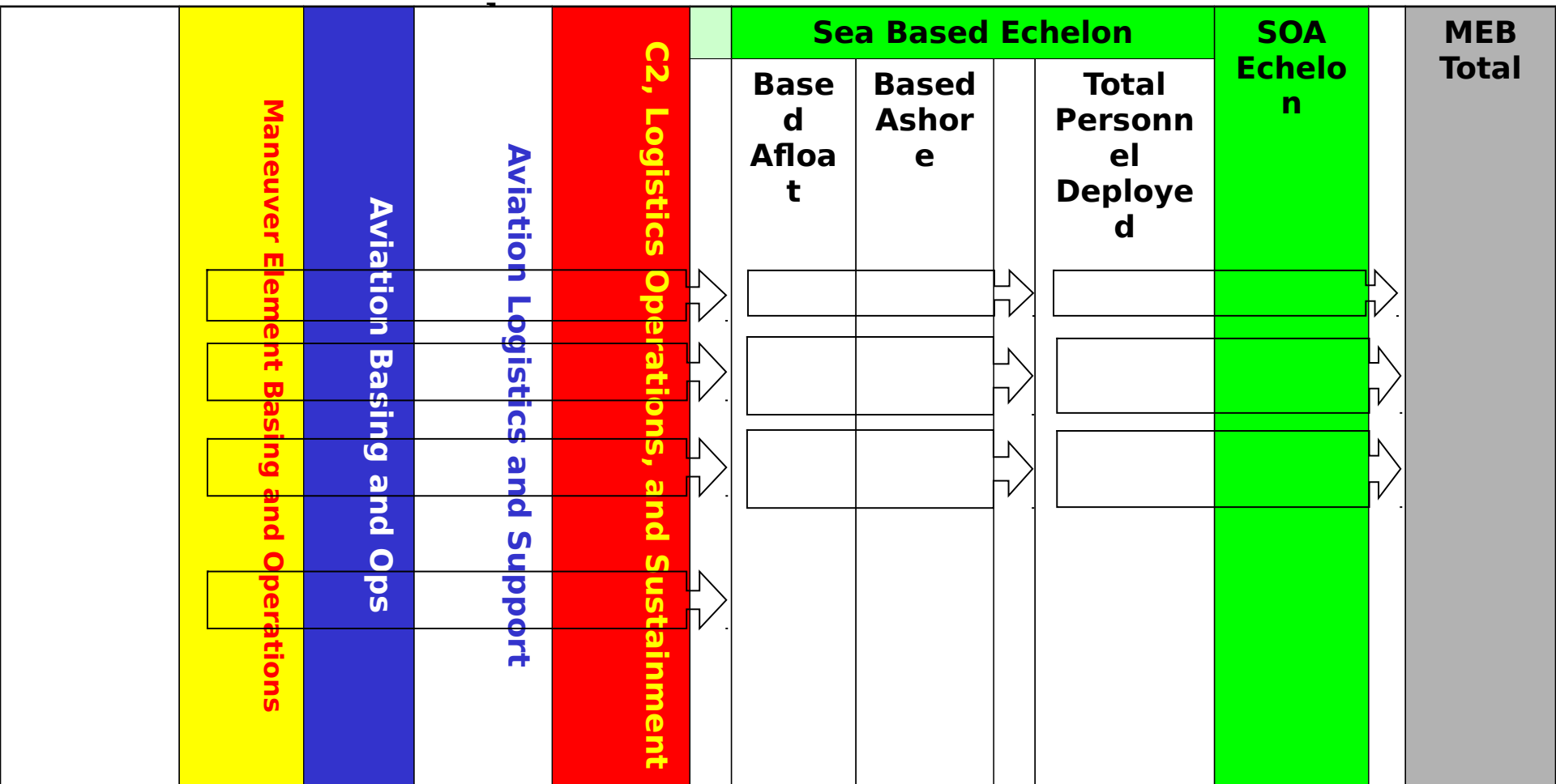
- **MPF(F): Supports extended crisis response thru prepositioning**
  - **Equipment and sustainment on-hand**
  - **Within 7days for MPF(F) MEB arrival and assembly with elements ready for tactical employment**
  - **Support and sustain follow-on forces from the seabase**

Organization and Movement of MAGTF Elements



MPF(F) vs Footprint Ashore

- 2015 MEB Strength 14.4K
- Figures do not include NSE or ships' companies
- FIE sortie requirement will increase significantly due to high-value/ low-density equipment for use



Bottom line

- **The introduction of transformational seabasing capabilities into the MPF(F), has blurred the distinction between the MPF(F) and the Amphibs.**

- **MPF(F) and Amphibs are neither interchangeable nor competing platforms.**

- **MPF(F) and Amphibs have distinctly different missions and profiles of employment**

- **MPF(F) is a transformational component contributing to seabasing capabilities**

- **Anti-access strategy requires both capabilities**

Conclusion

MPF(F) provides the Joint Force Commander with pre-positioned equipment and sustainment, when combined with the forcible entry capabilities of the ESG, it forms the nucleus for transformation - the Enhanced Networked Seabase

QUESTIONS?